

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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HORNE SAYS WAR PROTESTORS OUTSIDE ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOLS ARE SENDING THE WRONG MESSAGE

PHOENIX (Tuesday, August 07, 2007) -- In response to reports that war protestors have been confronting high school students with a message critical of military recruiting efforts on high school campuses and passing out postcards asking students to remove their contact information from the public school list provided to recruiters, state schools superintendent Tom Horne issued the following statement:

“I’ve been working hard to get our schools to teach history, government and civics to our students. History teaches us that countries not willing to defend themselves soon disappear. Reasonable people can differ about a particular war, but to have adults teaching students to be hostile to the military institutions that defend our freedom is educationally dysfunctional. I urge these adults to look in the mirror and decide to do something constructive for education, rather than destructive. They have a First Amendment right to speak, but I have a First Amendment right to criticize them.”

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